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August 19, 2014

Tom Wheeler

Chairman

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

On behalf of the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA), I am writing to endorse the proposed Comcast-Time Warner Cable transaction.

Established in 1994 in Washington, DC, the NHMA is a non-profit association representing the interests of 45,000 licensed Hispanic physicians in the United States. The mission of the organization is to empower Hispanic physicians to lead efforts to improve the health of Hispanic and other underserved populations in collaboration with the state Hispanic medical societies, resident and medical student organizations, and other public and private sector partners. NHMA commends Comcast for its diversity practices and a proven commitment to improve the lives of Latinos with programs like Internet Essentials.

Internet Essentials has been an important lifeline for low income families that qualify for the National School Lunch Program. With Internet Essentials, these families have access to at-home broadband and online resources to improve health and wellness, economic opportunity, and educational attainment. Today more than 350,000 families have connected with Internet Essentials, more than 1.4 million people. Also, Comcast has sold more than 23,000 computers to program participants for less than \$150.

Comcast's commitment to bring Internet Essentials to more Latinos in New York City, Los Angeles, and Texas cities like Austin, Dallas, and San Antonio, means more families will get online to access health information and make informed choices about health. Recent events around the Affordable Care Act and rapid advancements in the telehealth space have shown the importance of Internet access for healthcare purposes.

In addition to Internet Essentials and connectivity for underserved communities with the greatest health inequities, Comcast has a strong record for diversity and Hispanic programming. Comcast is the largest cable provider of Latino programming network packages, with a distribution platform that delivers more than 60 cable networks on the majority of its cable systems.

As part of Comcast's commitment to ethnic and independent programming, Comcast launched BabyFirst Americas. BabyFirst Americas is an English language channel designed for Latino children and their parents, emphasizing the importance of early development of verbal and motor skills. Programming like this is an important first step to help close the gap and improve the quality of life for Latino families.

NHMA asks the Federal Communications Commission to consider the public benefits of Comcast's Internet Essentials program and commitment to diversity and programming for the quality of life of the Latino communities it serves.

Sincerely,

Elena Rios, MD, MSPH
President & CEO